

MINUTES OF ANIMAL CONTROL TASK FORCE MEETING--- September 10, 2009 HARPSWELL TOWN HALL

The third meeting of the Animal Control Task Force was called to order by Chair Sue Luce at 4 pm. Members attending were Robert Small, Doug Johnson, and Sue Luce. Don Miskill and Lee Johnson were absent.

The first item on the agenda was to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2009 meeting. Vote was unanimous to accept. These minutes will be forwarded on to Linda Strickland for the town records.

There were no reports from the Dog Officer or Mitchell Field Liaison. Don Miskill had sent each member of the task force an updated copy of the Mitchell Field rules. We noted that the dog officer's phone number is prominently displayed.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK REPORTS: Sue Luce reported that she had had several responses to a possible change to NO DOGS from 11-1 daily. Comments suggested that if we are hoping to increase the use of Mitchell Field it seems we are going about it incorrectly to exclude people who already use it. Sue suggested having a LEASH ONLY time from 11-1 from Memorial Day through Labor Day. This would allow picnics without the prospect of unleashed dogs coming by. It was suggested that any changes should have a sunset clause so that these changes could be reviewed after a year.

We discussed the latest field conditions with regard to dog waste. The field still seems fairly clean even though the bag dispensers were empty for several weeks. Sue Luce and Bob Small offered to assist the Mitchell Field Committee in filling these regularly. We would still like to have containers for bag disposal. We agreed 4 small containers would be appropriate and that perhaps it would not be overly expensive to have Cheryl Ward do pick up every week. We will explore costs.

The task force discussed this canvassing campaign using the questionnaire drafted by Sue Luce. Sue will continue to work on the wording and questions. Any suggestions will be joyfully incorporated.

We decided our next meeting will be Monday the 28th of September at 4pm. The meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Luce, Chair